

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The following claim listing replaces all prior listings and versions of the claims:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-24. (Cancelled)

25. (New) An audio processing apparatus, comprising:

a first obtaining section configured to obtain a first audio signal from a mounted recording medium;

a second obtaining section configured to obtain a second audio signal from an external audio input terminal;

an output control section configured to selectively switch between the first audio signal obtained by the first obtaining section and the second audio signal obtained by the second obtaining section to be output as a sound from a speaker; and

a mode setting section configured to set an operation mode to a reproduction mode for reproducing the first audio signal from the mounted recording medium or a stop mode for stopping reproduction of the first audio signal from the mounted recording medium;

wherein when the mode setting section sets the operation mode from the reproduction mode to the stop mode, the output control section switches the sound to be output from the speaker from a sound based on the first audio signal to a sound based on the second audio signal, and mutes the second audio signal.

26. (New) The audio processing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the stop mode includes a first stop mode and a second stop mode,

when the mode setting section sets the operation mode from the reproduction mode to the first stop mode, the output control section switches the sound to be output from the speaker from the sound based on the first audio signal to the sound based on the second audio signal and mutes the second audio signal, and

when the mode setting section sets the operation mode from the first stop mode to the second stop mode, the output control section releases the second audio signal from the muted state.

27. (New) The audio processing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the second audio signal having a volume level different from that of the first audio signal.

28. (New) The audio processing apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the second audio signal having a larger volume level than that of the first audio signal.

29. (New) An audio processing method comprising:
obtaining a first audio signal from a recording medium mounted to an apparatus;
obtaining a second audio signal from an external audio input terminal of the apparatus;
switching between the first audio signal and the second audio signal to be output as a sound from a speaker;

setting an operation mode to a reproduction mode for reproducing the first audio signal from the mounted recording medium or a stop mode for stopping reproduction of the first audio signal from the mounted recording medium;

wherein when the operation mode is set from the reproduction mode to the stop mode, the sound to be output from the speaker is switched from a sound based on the first audio signal to a sound based on the second audio signal, and the second audio signal is muted.

30. (New) The audio processing method according to claim 29, wherein the stop mode includes a first stop mode and a second stop mode,

when the operation mode is set from the reproduction mode to the first stop mode, the sound to be output from the speaker is switched from the sound based on the first audio signal to the sound based on the second audio signal and the second audio signal is muted, and

when the operation mode is set from the first stop mode to the second stop mode, the second audio signal is released from the muted state.

31. (New) The audio processing method according to claim 29, wherein the second audio signal having a volume level different from that of the first audio signal.

32. (New) The audio processing method according to claim 31, wherein the second audio signal having a larger volume level than that of the first audio signal.